

March 7, 2007

Annual meeting of Anthony fire station board of directors

Board members Attendance:

Gary Cote

Edward Webster

Pat Lohrer Lefebvre

Domenic Terracciano

Shirley Matthews

Clerk:

Antonio Neves

Minutes of the meeting:

7:06pm Meeting started

Cote: Agenda item #1, Board member discussion.

Cote: reads to the audience four letters addressed to the board. The first letter is the letter of resignation of interim Chief Beckman as of March 3, 2007 and states that Deputy Chief Warren will take over as acting Chief, the second letter states that Beckman will reapply for the Chief position as soon as the Board open the position for applications. The third letter is an interest letter to serve on the Citizen Advisory Board by Mr. Kalsey. The fourth letter is a withdraw

letter by Mr. Degradi, he is no longer able to participate for the Citizen Advisory Board because of schedule conflict.

Cote: A request was made by a tax payer to have a treasury report at the meeting, so far we have \$643,923.92, and payroll as to date is \$293,084.72

Audience and Board members discussion on tax report.

Terracciano: What is the point of this?

Cote: Tax payer requested it.

Cote: Board members comments.

Webster: no, move on

Terracciano: All set

Lefebvre: would like to read the proposal I have prepared for the disability tax exempt. The proposal I have prepared states that a disabled resident will receive a \$8000.00 reduction off the property assessment and a tax freeze at the current tax rate at time of approved application.

Audience: the rate should be lower than \$37,500 for poverty income

Lefebvre: \$37,500 is what the town of Coventry uses as a requirement for poverty income.

Audience and Board members discussion on poverty income requirement.

Matthews: workman's compensation, we need to have for the ladies that work here, we have to have it, it's required by law, and the cost of it is about \$592.00 a year

Audience: do the board members need it too?

Matthews: the board members need it to, it is being researched.

Chief Warren: I have a comment on Beckman letter of resignation, on behalf of the district I would like to give Beckman a big thank you and we want you to reapply for the chief position.

Cote: the board would like to thank Beckman for helping the fire district move forward, you will be missed, you need to re apply if you want to serve us

Cote: agenda item #2, public comment and discussion

Audience: I read an article in the paper about the tax increase and would like an explanation.

Cote: every year expenses go up; we need the money to pay them

Audience and board discussion on tax increase

Cote: this is the first year we have to follow a union contract and pay for a new ambulance; we have made steps to bring the budget back on track.

Audience: everybody is merging how come we are not.

Audience and Board members discussion on merger.

Webster: merger discussion has been put to bed, for future

discussion

Terracciano: we need to fix the district before we discuss merger

Audience: Hillsdale Street insured?

Cote: we are still looking into it, we are looking into our policy, and we will insure it if we have to.

7:53pm Cote: chair will accept motion for executive session under RI Gen. Laws Chapter 134 Section 42-46-5 (a)- (1); collective bargaining/ litigation

Edward Webster: motion to move to executive session

Terracciano: second

Cote: all in favor?

Board members: aye, unanimous

8:05 pm Break

8:13pm -10:17pm executive session regarding personnel matters and collective bargaining/ litigation.

10:19pm Cote: return to public meeting

Cote: motion to seal minutes of executive meeting

Webster: motion to closes minutes of executive meeting

Terracciano: seconds

Cote: all in favor?

Cote: yes

Webster: yes

Lefebvre: yes

Matthews: yes

Terracciano: yes

Board members: unanimous vote yes

Cote: vote was taken in executive meeting on declaration judgment as an option for the attorney and will not use it without notifying the board; unanimous vote yes by the board members. Vote was also taken not to extend the arbitration hearing; unanimous vote yes by the board members.

10:20pm Cote: motion to adjourn meeting

Webster: motion to adjourn meeting

Terracciano: second

Cote: all in favor?

Cote: yes

Webster: yes

Matthews: yes

Terracciano: yes

Lefebvre: yes

10:22pm meeting adjourned